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FORD EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY

143 -

*One Reel*

CUT IT OUT

The Story of  
Cut Glass Making

Produced by  
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TITLES FOR WEEKLY #143

1. To either Syria or Egypt belongs the distinction of having founded the glass industry. So well balanced are the claims of both countries, however, it is perhaps best to regard the question of the birthplace of the glass industry as one that has still to be settled.
2. Certain it is, however, that it was known to the Egyptians at an early date for tombs of the 4th dynasty (4000 B. C.) show glass blowers at work.
3. And so almost six thousand years later we find American glass blowers busily "blowing themselves" as did their ancient brothers of the East in the 4th dynasty.
4. Now glass is formed by mixing one or more basic substances such as sand, red lead, potash, etc., with silica -----
5. And fused at a very high temperature in the melting furnace where the mixture is retained for 24 hours at 2700° Fahrenheit.
6. Ready for blowing, the molten glass is removed from the furnace and the Blower begins his task.
7. Note how the hot glass is continually revolved while the blowing is being done - this is to preserve its shape.
8. Shaping a pitcher while hot. The glass worker pines his shears with the nonchalance of a tailor.
9. And now the handle is attached. All accomplished while the glass is very hot. A seemingly simple little process but one that has required years of practice.
10. Blowing Goblets.
11. Casting a foot on the goblet.
12. Blanks that are ready for "Cutting" are prepared by the designer who marks out the pattern in red pigment.
13. The design is roughly cut by a steel wheel and carborundum dust.
14. Followed by the Glass Cutter who smooths out the rough incisions and completes the design with a stone wheel.



- 15 Girls are fine glass cutters, in fact the more delicate designs are entrusted to their care.
- 16 When the cutting is complete, the glass is highly polished and treated to acid bath to preserve its lustre.
- 17 Etching Goblets. The design is prepared from transfer papers -----
- 18 Which are placed upon the goblets, moistened and removed leaving the design upon the glass.
- 19 Engraving 24 goblets at one time. 96 needle points controlled by a guiding master arm perform the work of 24 engravers.

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